

CLAIMS

1. Process for the treatment of sludge successively comprising a step of foaming of the sludge under controlled conditions which make it possible to obtain a foam having a density of less than 90% of that of the sludge and a step  
5 of drying of the foam.

2. Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the density of the foam is less than 85% of that of the sludge.

3. Process according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the density of the foam is between 55 and 65%.

10 4. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises a phosphatization of the sludge before foaming.

5. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the foam is dried by techniques related to composting.

15 6. Process according to the preceding claim, characterized in that after 12 days of drying, the dried sludge reaches a dry matter content exceeding 65%.

7. Process according to any one of claims 5 or 6, characterized in that the drying is carried out in a composting tunnel comprising a sand layer placed on a membrane impermeable to water.

20 8. Process according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the dried sludge is then calcined.

9. Process according to the preceding claim, characterized in that the calcining temperature is between 550 and 750°C.

25 10. Process according to either of claims 7 and 8, characterized in that the product obtained from the calcining is then mixed with water and is then subjected to setting and hardening.